1 - Mr. J. B. Adams
1 - Mr. T. J. Jenkins
1 - Mr. D. W. Moore

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Mr. T. W. Leavitt

3/25/76

1 - Mr. R. J. Gallagher
(Attn: J. S. Peelman)
1 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
1 - Mr. T. W. Leavitt
1 - Mr. J. G. Deegan
1 - Mr. S. F. Phillips

J. G. Deegan

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

(Ma King)

PURPOSE: To advise of the apparent termination of the Department's study of Bureau files to determine whether investigation of the Martin Luther King, Jr., assassination should be reopened.

SYNOPSIS: On 3/24/76 Robert Murphy of the Department requested additional documents to complete the Department's study to determine if our investigation of the assassination of King should be reopened. Indicating he had recently reviewed the Senate Intelligence Committee's draft report on King, Murphy requested documents bearing primarily on our actions to discredit and neutralize King, an area which he will apparently take cognizance of in his summary and recommendations to Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Pottinger, Civil Rights Division (CRD). Murphy indicated his review of additional documents on 3/24/76 would end the Department's study.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

44-38861

APR 2 1976

DETAILS: You have been previously advised that under the direction of Pottinger, the Department has been reviewing our Headquarters files on King and related matters to study whether or not the investigation of the assassination of King should be reopened. One of the principal reviewers, Robert Murphy, Chief of Criminal Section, CRD, has stated his summary will also take cognizance of FBI actions to discredit King.

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JTA:adn
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ORIGINAL FILED IN CASE FILE

On 3/24/76 Murphy advised he had recently reviewed the Senate Intelligence Committee's draft report concerning King and, based upon footnotes in that draft, discovered a number of FBI documents which he desired to review prior to completing his summary. Murphy requested to see approximately 40 documents concerning dissemination of King monographs, dissemination of information outside the Executive Branch of Government, plans to discredit and neutralize King, alleged existence of a foreign bank account of King and documents relating to communist influence in the racial movement.

These documents were made available to Murphy who reviewed same on 3/24/76 and indicated this action would complete the Department's study.

None of the documents requested on 3/24/76 pertained to any aspect of our investigation of King's assassination. Based on the nature of the above documents requested and reviewed by Murphy, it appears knowledge of the Senate Intelligence Committee's report dictated additional review pertaining to our actions to discredit and neutralize King.